

Germany (Soviet Zone)

SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY \_\_\_\_\_ REPORT \_\_\_\_\_

TOPIC \_\_\_\_\_ Soviet Troops in Potsdam

50X1-HUM

EVALUATION \_\_\_\_\_

PLACE OBTAINED \_\_\_\_\_

50X1-HUM

DATE OF CONTENT \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OBTAINED \_\_\_\_\_

DATE PREPARED \_\_\_\_\_

28 February 1952

REFERENCES \_\_\_\_\_

PAGES 6 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS \_\_\_\_\_

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

1. On 23 January 1952, numerous officers, predominantly wearing artillery, tank, signal and motor transport insignia, military officials and uniformed women were seen entering and leaving the Adolf Hitler Kaserne on Pappel Allee in Potsdam. Twelve soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia were seen marching from the installation to the Kriegsschule at the intersection of Pappel Allee and Kirsch Allee.

2. Between 16 and 23 January 1952, numerous officers, most of whom wore black-bordered red collar patches and some wearing red-bordered black collar patches with artillery insignia and black-bordered black collar patches with signal insignia and military officials were seen entering and leaving the Kriegsschule at the intersection of Pappel Allee and Kirsch Allee.

3. On 23 January 1952, the southern section of the Polizei Kaserne at 10-12 Pappel Allee quartered about 150 troops wearing black-bordered red epaulets, who furnished the guard details for the Adolf Hitler Kaserne and the Kriegsschule at Bornstedt. The northern section of the installation quartered about 100 NCOs who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. The sentries at the installation were also NCOs.

4. On 22 and 23 January 1952, many officers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and motor transport insignia and black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia, and military officials were seen entering and leaving the Ruinenberg Kaserne. The barracks section with the entrance on Schlegelstrasse quartered about 150 troops, most of whom wore black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia.

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Document No. 001  
 No Change in Class. ☐  
☐ Declassified  
 Class. Char. 13 S (6)  
 Auth.: KH 70-2  
 Date: SEP 12 1975

50X1-HUM

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- 2 -

5. On 15 January 1952, the Gohn Kaserne in Gohn was occupied by about 600 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia, and about 50 Soviet airmen. Weapons seen in front of the armory in the eastern section of the billeting area on 11 January 1952 included 4 x 72-mm field guns, 1 x 152-mm gun howitzer, and 1 trailer with a gun barrel. A battery of two 122-mm field guns took up position in a wooded area adjoining the eastern part of the billeting area. On 14 January 1952, 24 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia practiced with a 152-mm gun howitzer in the nearby training field north of the Gohn Fichten woods. Two prime movers stood near the gun howitzer. Two groups of 12 soldiers each were seen practicing terrain evaluation and a third group of soldiers, orientation by map and compasses. On 15 January 1952, a 122-mm field gun battery and a 152-mm gun howitzer battery took up position at the forward slope of the Gohn Fichten woods, with the batteries about 100 meters apart. After the training, the batteries returned to the barracks installation. Telephone construction crews practiced stringing and operating lines in the area west and north of the barracks installation. A cigar-shaped balloon, 20 meters long and about 8 meters in diameter, painted silver and with two red Soviet Stars, lay on the ground in the southeastern section of the Gohn Kaserne. On 16 January 1952, the crews of a 122-mm field gun battery were engaged in gun drill north of the Gohn Fichten woods. Farther west, two 152-mm guns were placed in firing position by crews of about 12 soldiers with rifles. The crews practiced predominantly the emplacing of guns in concealed position. Further troops practiced with aiming circles and field telephones.

6. On 16 January 1952, only a few soldiers were seen entering and leaving the barracks installation in Wildpark-West, east of the Grosser Entenfaenger Lake. Sentries wore black-bordered black epaulets. One officer and 20 soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets practiced the stringing of telephone lines in the area south of the installation.

7. On 22 January 1952, the Kavallerieschule in Kramnitz quartered a unit of soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank and artillery insignia. T-34/85 tanks [ ] left the installation through the northwestern gate toward Doeberitz. They were followed by truck [ ] which was occupied by about 20 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. About 130 troops practiced firing with pistols and carbines at the target ranges north of the installation. Six JS tanks [ ] stood in front of a garage. On 22 January, troops in the eastern section of the installation were engaged in firing with pistols, rifle drill and fatigue duty. About 100 troops practiced firing with pistols at the target ranges north of the installation. Truck [ ] occupied by 3 officers and 8 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and towing a 76.2-mm field gun, left for the Doeberitz troop training ground through the northwestern gate of the installation.

8. During the mornings between 15 and 23 January 1952, only very few soldiers were seen in the southern section of the Gohn Kaserne on Hedlitzerstrasse. Twelve trucks, 1 sedan and 2 trailers were parked in front of the garages on 15 January. Seven artillery pieces, including three 152-mm gun howitzers, were parked on Bornstodter Feld. On 17 January, about 25 soldiers were seen policing the billeting area. One truck, 3 caterpillar tractors and 2 trailers were parked in front of the garages.

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- 3 -

9. Between 15 and 23 January, there was hardly any training activity in the northern section of the Delius Kaserne. (4) On 15 January, 2 x 122-mm field guns, 2 x 152-mm gun howitzers and caterpillar tractor O-50-26 stood on Bornstedter Feld, with each gun manned by 8 to 10 soldiers. Seven radio trucks occupied by 4 to 6 men each, 1 truck with trailer, 1 field kitchen and 1 sedan were parked at the golfing grounds about 200 meters from the guardhouse. [redacted] About 30 50X1-HUM officers assembled near the vehicles for a briefing. At noon on 19 January, troops policed the barracks yard and quarters. On the morning of 22 January, the quarters were almost vacant. About 15 soldiers were seen engaged in fatigue duty and about 50 soldiers receiving rifle drill. Nine trucks and 2 prime movers were parked in front of the garages. The quarters were almost vacant on 23 January. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
10. Between 15 and 23 January 1952, the quarters of the Hohenlohe Kaserne on Nedlitzerstrasse seemed to be almost vacated. Except for 25 soldiers engaged in fatigue duty, no troops were seen. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
11. Between 18 and 23 January, no training activity was observed in the Ludendorff Kaserne on Nedlitzerstrasse, except for close order drill performed by about 40 troops and fatigue duty by about 30 troops on 19 January. Sixteen 37-mm AA guns were seen parked in front of the gun sheds throughout the period of observation. About 200 troops were seen marching from a barracks building to the administrative building on 18 January. Truck [redacted] was identified in the billeting area. (5) 50X1-HUM
12. During the period from 5 to 15 January, the Kavallerieschule at Kranznitz was occupied beyond capacity by a unit of soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, most of them with tank insignia. Four tanks with camouflage tarponlins were parked in front of one of the garages on 7 January. Armored two-axle vehicle [redacted] with two 20-mm guns left toward Potsdam through the western gate. Troops observed on 15 January included: about 400 unarmed troops assembling in front of the main building near the western gate; about 40 troops engaged in firing practice; 20 officers engaged in marksmanship practice with pistols; and 20 soldiers practicing gymnastics at the bar in front of the garages. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
13. Between 5 and 7 January, the Golm Kaserne was occupied by about 450 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia, and several air force soldiers. Three 76.2-mm field guns and 1 x 152-mm gun howitzer stood in front of the armory on 7 January. Troops were engaged in fatigue duty inside and outside the billeting area. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
14. On 5 January 1952, the EM kitchen in the northern section of the Delius Kaserne on Nedlitzerstrasse served meals to 986 men of the artillery unit and 147 men of the division headquarters, while the officers' mess catered to 253 officers. (6) On 7 January 1952, [redacted] effective that day, the duty routine of the unit was [redacted] 50X1-HUM

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- 4 -

50X1-HUM

shifted from daytime to night hours, with exactly the same duties to be fulfilled at night as were previously fulfilled during daytime. Between 7 and 13 January, hardly any training activity was observed in that barracks section during daytime. (4) The personnel of all batteries were scheduled to take showers during the time between 5 p.m. on 7 January and 5 a.m. on 8 January. On 11 January, 150 troops were engaged in calisthenics. The troops received instruction at the quarters at 4:30 p.m. On 14 January, about 50 men received rifle drill and about 45 further soldiers practiced aiming with four 152-mm guns.

50X1-HUM

15. Troops observed in the southern section of the Delius Kaserne on 7 January 1952 included: 15 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and practicing with a 76.2-mm AT gun coupled to a caterpillar tractor; about 20 soldiers falling in with rifles; and 24 soldiers carrying 122-mm practice shells. On 8 January, a column of caterpillar tractors towing 152-mm artillery pieces and followed by crews of 12 soldiers each, was seen leaving the installation. The rear of the column was brought up by 14 soldiers carrying stadia rods and blackboards measuring about 60 cm square. From 400 to 450 troops, organized in eight groups, marched to the messhall at about 3:45 a.m. On 14 January 1952, 20 recruits wearing red-bordered black epaulets practiced saluting.

50X1-HUM

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16. a Soviet office was located at 32 Karl Marxstrasse, the corridors of the building were decorated exclusively with pictures of rocket launchers. Trucks stood in front of the garages which were heavily guarded. On 26 December, an office for the distribution of training manuals was located in both the former Grosse Schule and Kleine Schule at 88 and 10 August Bebelstrasse respectively. Numerous boxes and packages with training manuals, dispatched from Moscow were seen in the basement of the building. (7)

50X1-HUM

a bands training school which conducted five-month courses for 120 men was located in the restricted area.

12 large buildings were to be converted into troop quarters by the end of January 1952. At intervals of 45 minutes, groups of 20 uniformed women were seen marching to a building with a smokestack between Rudolf Breitscheidstrasse and Domstrasse. These women marched to that place once a week for firing practice with pistols and small-bore target practice. A Soviet admiral was billeted in the former residence of German Cross-admiral Raeder at 14 Stubenrauchstrasse. On 17 January, the restricted area would be enlarged, and the main guardhouse would be moved about 400 meters farther to the south Steinstrasse would be blocked to civilian traffic as far as the railroad overpass over the Wannsee-Brewitz railroad line. On 10 January 1952, trucks

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

were seen en route to the supply installation, loaded to capacity with 600 aluminum bedsteads. Six hundred more bedsteads were expected to arrive the next days. Armored vehicles were parked under the railroad overpass and 1 officer and 6 EM stood beside each vehicle.

50X1-HUM

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50X1-HUM

Armored vehicles were on the large parking lot on 11 January. Ten new, Soviet sedans, similar to the German Opel Olympia type, stood in the yard at 40 Lessingstrasse. more new sedans were expected. On 14 January, a Soviet compound on Rote Kreuzstrasse, outside the restricted Babelsberg area, was referred to as Kleines Generalsquadrat. A headquarters was housed in a building east of the Rote Kreuzstrasse, and EM wearing red-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia were billeted in eight buildings west of the Rote Kreuzstrasse, with each building quartering 40 soldiers. On 16 January, hotels, each quartering 16 Soviet officers ranking from major up to colonel, were located at 15, 38 and 45 Virchowstrasse. Armored vehicles were parked under the railroad overpass, with 1 officer and 6 EM standing beside each.

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- 5 -

17.

General Chuikov, Commander-in-Chief of Soviet troops in Germany, has his office in the Kleines Generals-quadrat in the Babelsberg restricted area. Chuikov was said to have been seen with Lieutenant General Ivanov (fnu), the Chief of Rear Services in the Adolf Hitler Kaserne on Pappel Allee. The residences of both Chuikov and Ivanov were in the restricted Babelsberg area. Bookkeeping and accounting courses for Soviet and German employees under Colonel Portnov (fnu) were said to have been conducted in a building on Jaeger Allee.

Unit

50X1-HUM

commanded by one Khapilin (fnu), was stationed on Pappel Allee. At the end of December 1951, Unit had two typewriters repaired at the typewriter workshop of the military procurement administration in Potsdam. (3)

18. On and before 14 January 1952, many officers ranking from major up to and including colonel were seen entering and leaving the Adolf Hitler Kaserne. 50X1-HUM

the duty hours in the installation ended between 3 and 4 p.m. during the weeks up to 14 January, because most of the officers working in the installation left the billeting area at that time. About 100 officers ranking from major up to and including colonel were seen passing through the barracks gate during one hour. About 60 percent of them wore black-bordered red epaulets and the rest, red-bordered black epaulets. In addition, about 40 uniformed women with black-bordered red epaulets, 30 Russian civilian women and 20 Russian civilian men were also seen leaving the installation during the one-hour period.

50X1-HUM

19. Between 7 and 14 January 1952, the Polizei Kaserne on Jaeger Allee was occupied by troops wearing black-bordered red epaulets. In addition, numerous officers were seen entering and leaving the installation, most of them coming from the Adolf Hitler Kaserne. 50X1-HUM

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- 6 -

50X1-HUM

[ ] Comments.

50X1-HUM

- (2) The information again confirms that the barracks installation at Golm quarters a component of the unidentified artillery division in Potsdam, possibly a component of the division's unidentified artillery brigade, and a small air force unit. It also confirms the armory which is believed to be subordinate directly to the artillery division. The balloon unit was stationed in the barracks installation at Wildpark-West during the winter of 1950/1951. 50X1-HUM
- (3) The JS tanks and 76.2-mm field guns observed at the Kavallerieschule are indicative of the 31st Gds Hvy Tank Bn Regt and the 20th (?) Gds Ritz Rifle Regt, both of the 10th Gds Tank Div. Most of the vehicles noticed at the installation belong to this division. 50X1-HUM
- (4) The night duties reported [ ] have been performed by the troops in the northern section of the Delius Kaserne probably extended until 23 January and also affected the artillery brigade in the southern section of the installation. [ ] only little training activity was noticed in the entire Delius Kaserne. 50X1-HUM
- (5) It is possible that the components of the 2d Gds AAA Div in the Hohenlohe Kaserne and the Ludendorff Kaserne also performed their duties at night, because little training activity was noticed there during day time.
- (6) [ ] the troops in the northern section of the Delius Kaserne at 135 officers and 900 MM. which almost corresponds to the estimate in the present report. 50X1-HUM
- (7) [ ]
- (8) Colonel General S.P. Ivanov is Chief of Staff of the GOFG rather than Chief of Rear Services as stated in the present report. The statement that the office of the Chief of Rear Services of the GOFG is in the Adolf Hitler Kaserne is correct. The office of the Chief of Staff is carried in the restricted Babelsberg area. 50X1-HUM

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